



IDAHO CROP WEATHER

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Rains Slow Potato Harvest

Agricultural Summary

Mid-week rains and cooler weather in South Central and Eastern Idaho slowed potato harvest last week. Temperatures during the past week were well below normal. Statewide, major agricultural activities included seeding winter wheat and harvesting potatoes, dry beans, alfalfa hay, silage corn, and apples.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

In Caribou County, cattle have started to come off the range. Idaho range and pasture continues to be in mostly fair to good condition statewide.

Field Crop Report

Potato harvest was halted in several areas due to the wet weather, and a few farmers are still waiting for fields to dry. A killing frost finished off the remaining potato vines in Eastern Idaho last week. Franklin County reports corn silage harvest is going well with excellent yields. In the Treasure Valley, fruit growers have nearly finished harvesting soft fruits and are now concentrating on picking apples and pears.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture improved from last week to 8 percent very short, 19 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Reports indicate a statewide average of 4.6 days were suitable for fieldwork last week, down from 6.2 days the week before.

Crop Progress

<i>Percentages</i>	2006	2005	Average
Field Corn Harvested for Silage	74	44	51
Oats Harvested for Grain	97	88	89
Potatoes – Vines Dying/ Killed	98	87	92
Onions Harvested	59	45	59
Dry Beans Harvested	77	53	74
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting Harvested	75	52	52

Crop Condition

<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
Potato	2	7	8	64	19
Irr. Water Supply	--	2	10	53	35
Range and Pasture	1	10	53	27	9

Crop Progress by District

Crop	North			Southwest			South Central			East			State		
	2006	2005	Avg	2006	2005	Avg	2006	2005	Avg	2006	2005	Avg	2006	2005	Avg
Winter Wheat															
Planted	12	17	13	48	58	36	34	38	52	44	46	44	29	33	31
Emerged	--	--	--	4	20	8	7	--	11	10	8	12	5	4	6
Potatoes															
Harvested.....	NA	NA	NA	63	87	72	30	20	29	8	11	13	18	19	22
Sugarbeets															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	--	--	1	15	7	7	4	6	5	10	5	6
Alfalfa Hay															
3 rd Cutting Harvested..	NA	NA	NA	100	100	100	99	99	97	81	86	71	92	94	86

Avg (2001 – 2005); NA = Very small percentage of acreage in district.

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Weather Data for the Week Ending Sunday, September 24, 2006 ^{1/}

Station	Temperature 2/				Growing Degree Days 4/			Precipitation (Inches)				
	High	Low	Ave.	Dept 3/	40° Base	50° Base		Total 5/	Dept 3/	Month of September	March 1	
						To Date	Normal				To Date	Normal
North												
Coeur D' Alene	66	36	53	-3	3846	2165	1790	0.28	-0.10	0.28	3.59	13.21
Grangeville	66	34	48	-7	3386	1826	1470	1.57	1.18	2.06	15.01	15.78
Lewiston	76	42	58	-4	4916	3038	2638	0.65	0.46	0.67	7.35	7.24
Sand Point	65	41	--	--	3480	1857	1441	0.53	0.16	0.53	11.44	14.64
Southwest												
Boise	80	38	57	-4	5003	3190	2530	0.13	-0.04	0.14	6.45	5.97
Caldwell	68	37	--	--	4762	2913	2788	0.00	-0.15	0.00	3.45	5.27
Emmett	79	38	54	-6	4585	2801	2465	0.25	0.08	0.26	7.86	6.07
Mountain Home	79	39	55	-6	4855	3142	2527	0.30	0.14	0.42	7.38	4.60
Parma	72	35	--	--	4676	2871	2378	0.44	0.28	0.46	5.80	5.41
Weiser	74	41	--	--	5055	3221	2479	0.08	-0.04	0.16	6.61	5.29
South Central												
Buhl	--	--	--	--	3889	2219	2093	--	--	--	--	--
Burley	73	30	50	-8	3812	2174	2071	0.35	0.20	0.51	6.04	5.45
Hill City	--	--	--	--	2814	1411	1253	--	--	--	--	--
Hagerman	--	--	--	--	4916	3128	2613	--	--	--	--	--
Malta	--	--	--	--	3943	2272	1813	0.00	-0.17	0.00	4.87	6.21
Twin Falls	72	31	51	-6	4140	2487	1828	0.25	0.09	0.27	6.65	5.60
East												
Aberdeen	68	28	--	--	3571	2023	1596	--	--	--	--	--
Grace	--	--	--	--	3359	1844	1429	--	--	--	--	--
Idaho Falls	71	28	46	-9	3408	1860	1662	1.05	0.86	1.89	8.63	6.60
Malad City	--	--	--	--	3680	2089	1813	--	--	--	--	--
Pocatello	74	28	48	-9	3791	2184	1912	0.68	0.47	1.43	7.10	7.03
Rexburg	69	29	46	-8	3445	1923	1549	1.03	0.81	2.13	8.95	8.07
Salmon	70	30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

1/ Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center, the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/ -- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Weekly departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received; no estimates were made for missing data.